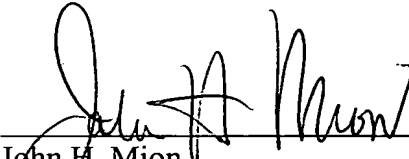


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
PCT/EP2004/051108, filed: June 14, 2004

**REMARKS**

The above amendments have been made to eliminate all multiple dependent claims, thereby both ensuring examination of all claims on the merits in the first Office Action and eliminating the need for a multiple dependent claim fee.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Mion", is written over a horizontal line.

John H. Mion  
Registration No. 18,879

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213  
(202) 663-7901

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 31, 2005